UNITED
NATIONS

TD

United Nations Conference
on Trade and Development

Distr.
GENERAL

TD/B/WP/72
23 April 1991

Original: ENGLISH

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Working Party on the Medium-term Plan
and the Programme Budget
Twentieth session
Geneva, 16 April 1991
Agenda item 3

REVIEW OF THE UNCTAD SECTION OF THE PROPOSED UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1992 - 1993

Note by the secretariat

This document reproduces the text approved by the Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget at its 96th (closing) meeting, on 19 April 1991. The report of the Working Party on its twentieth session will be issued in document (TD/B/WP/73).

GE.91-50719

Contents

	Page
Executive direction and management	1
Programme 13. International trade	3
Subprogramme 1. Protectionism and market access	4
Subprogramme 2. Structural adjustment and trade expansion	6
Subprogramme 3. Cross-sectoral issues	8
Subprogramme 4. Transfer of technology	9
Subprogramme 6. Commodities	12
Subprogramme 7. Economic co-operation among developing countries	17
Subprogramme 8. Maritime and multimodal transport	20
Subprogramme 9. Data management and trade facilitation	23
Programme 14. Development finance, resource flows and external debt	25
Subprogramme 1. External financing and international monetary issues	25
Subprogramme 2. Debt and development problems of developing countries	26
Subprogramme 3. Interdependence and intersectoral issues	28
Subprogramme 4. Insurance	30
Programme 15. Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, and special programmes	31
Subprogramme 1. Least developed countries	33
Subprogramme 2. Land-locked and island developing countries, and special programmes:	35
Land-locked and island developing countries	35
Assistance to the Palestinian people	36
Programme support and management services	37

Executive direction and management

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

The Office of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD provides overall direction, supervision and management of the activities of UNCTAD, which relate to programmes 13, 14 and 15 of the Medium-term Plan for the period 1992-1997.

ACTIVITIES

1. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

(e) External relations

(i) Policy advice to member States on substantive issues of trade and development, liaison with intergovernmental organizations and groups of delegations, and with non-governmental organizations and their representatives; consultations with other entities concerned with development issues, including the enterprise sector, parliamentarians and journalists;

(ii) Consultation and liaison with, and substantive advice to, Governments of the African region and regional and subregional organizations thereof in relation to African economic development, drawing on the UNCTAD Task Force Unit on the UNPAAERD.

2. PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

(a) Parliamentary documentation

(i) Report on programme evaluation in UNCTAD, Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget, Trade and Development Board, 1992;

(ii) Reports to the Trade and Development Board and General Assembly on evolution and progress of African economic development, annual, 1992,1993.

(b) Parliamentary services

Working Party on the Medium-term Plan and the Programme Budget, annual, 1992, 1993.
Trade and Development Board, annual, 1992, 1993.

3. PUBLISHED MATERIAL

(c) Technical material

Evaluations of specific programmes of technical co-operation activities, 1992, 1993.

4. INFORMATION MATERIALS AND SERVICES

(a) Booklets, pamphlets, etc.

(i) Trade and Development, a review, 1992, 1993;
(ii) UNCTAD Bulletin, English and French, six annually, 1992-1993;
(iii) Ad hoc information booklets and audio-visual material on UNCTAD for the public and media;
(iv) Responses to individual requests for information and documentation on UNCTAD matters.

(b) Press releases

(i) Press releases in English and French as required in relation to UNCTAD meetings;
(ii) Press briefings and encounters on UNCTAD issues; briefings on UNCTAD issues in the context of study programmes and group visits.

6. CO-ORDINATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON

(i) Overall policy direction to the work of UNCTAD; central management of UNCTAD's resources and work programmes, including technical co-operation;
(ii) Inter-departmental and inter-agency co-ordination at the highest level; co-ordination of UNCTAD contributions to inter-agency activities;
(iii) Policy-related advice in relation to the planning and clearing of all UNCTAD secretariat documents and statements for intergovernmental meetings within and outside UNCTAD;
(iv) Programme planning and co-ordination in relation to substantive preparations for intergovernmental meetings;
(v) Liaison, consultation and co-operation with other departments and offices of the United Nations, other international entities and delegations and groups of delegations, on policy and substantive matters relating to UNCTAD's programme of work;
(vi) Consultations, and co-operation on substantive issues, in relation to African economic and social development with other departments of the United Nations and international entities concerned; co-ordination of the substantive work of UNCTAD in relation to its contribution to support for African economic development in all its aspects.

13. International Trade

Introduction

The overall focus of the work programme on international trade would be the improvement and strengthening of international trade relations in all its aspects, with the particular objective of making the trading system more responsive to the evolving development needs of developing countries and the enhancement of their export possibilities, taking into account the outcome of UNCTAD VIII on its agenda.

It is understood that, having due regard to the recent developments in Central and Eastern Europe, the issues related to these developments and their implications for world trade, and economic co-operation, in particular the trade of the developing countries, will be considered in the context of the overall problématique of international trade and reflected as appropriate in the relevant subprogrammes of programme 13. Similar approach will be followed in considering these developments and their implications, in particular for the developing countries, in the relevant subprogrammes of programme 14 in the context of the overall problématique of development finance, resource flows and external debt.

Subprogrammes 1 and 2 emphasize support for improvement of market access conditions and for the encouragement of appropriate structural adjustment policies, including trade policies, respectively. In this context, increased support would be provided to developing countries in their efforts to improve the functioning of their economies, with particular emphasis on trade policy reforms and strengthening export supply capabilities and trade promotion institutions.

Subprogramme 3 is concerned with cross-sectoral issues relating to the improvement of the international trading framework and the establishment of mutually supportive relationships between that framework and other areas of the international economic system. The work programme would give increased attention to the strengthening of the capacity of developing countries to derive full benefit from international trade agreements. Attention would also be given to the strengthening of the service sectors of developing countries and related infrastructures.

Work on technology (subprogramme 4) will give greater emphasis to relationships between technology transfer and trade, and especially the implications of new technologies for trade and development, particularly of developing countries. On commodities (subprogramme 6), in addition to commodity market stabilization and strengthening, increasing emphasis would be given to market access, diversification, processing and marketing and distribution, including transportation. In the field of maritime transport (subprogramme 8), in addition to traditional areas of emphasis - the role of orderly fleet development in the expansion of world trade and promotion of greater efficiency in all aspects of maritime transport - a new dimension of work would relate to the promotion of co-operation among developing countries with respect to shipping, ports and multimodal transport.

Subprogramme 9, on data management and trade facilitation, which is largely service oriented, would give special attention to data base and systems development to support both in-house substantive work and an expanding technical co-operation programme on trade facilitation.

With regard to activities which had in previous programme budgets come under the rubric of trade among countries with different economic and social systems, it is noted that the Secretary-General of UNCTAD will continue to make adjustments in the work programme of the UNCTAD secretariat as appropriate and that these adjustments would be reflected in the current programme budget.

1 Protectionism and market access

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

Analysis of trade actions and legislation and of other developments in trade policies affecting access to markets including developments relating to market access for commodities; assessment of Government trade interventions and of incidence of non-tariff measures; analysis of impact of voluntary export restraints and other managed trade arrangements, particularly on the exports of developing countries; studies on restrictive business practices and reporting on developments in this area, including review of control over RBPs, where feasible; activities in support of intergovernmental consultations on and with regard to enhancing transparency in the area of Restrictive Business Practices (RBPs); continuation of work on the model law and the handbook on RBPs; dissemination of information and substantive support to technical co-operation relating to market access and restrictive business practices.

Evaluation of possible results of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations will be taken into account in carrying out the work involved, where appropriate.

ACTIVITIES

2. PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

(a) Parliamentary documentation

Trade and Development Board

(i) Problems of protectionism and structural adjustment, and statistical and information annexes, Part I, 1992, 1993;
(ii) Documentation of information provided by Member States for the annual reviews of protectionism and structural adjustment, 1992, 1993;

Intergovernmental Group of Experts on RBPs

(iii) Measures taken by Member States to meet their commitments to the Set of Principles and Rules for the Control of RBPs, 1992, 1993;
(iv) Developments with regard to legislation on RBPs, including compilation and updating of a handbook on RBP legislation, 1992, 1993;
(v) Particular restrictive business practices, identified in the Set, 1993.
(vi) Model law or laws on RBP - Revision, 1992.

(b) Substantive services

(i) Trade and Develoment Board, annual, 1992, 1993;
(ii) Intergovernmental Group of Experts on RBPs, annual, 1992, 1993.

3. PUBLISHED MATERIAL

(a) Recurrent publications

Annual reports on developments in the area of RBPs, 1992, 1993.

(b) Non-recurrent publications

(i) Evaluation of the Uruguay Round developments/results in the fields of tariff and non-tariff measures, 1992 or 1993;
(ii) Two studies on trade legislation in selected countries, 1992, 1993.

(c) Technical material

(i) Four information notes on RBPs, two notes in each year, 1992, 1993;
(ii) Maintenance and dissemination of a data base on RBPs; updating of a directory of RBPs' authorities; revision of the indicative checklist of items for States requesting information on particular cases involving RBPs; revision of checklist of possible steps to be followed by States making requests for consultations on RBPs.

5. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

(a) Advisory services

Advisory missions, and backstopping thereof, relating to the analysis of access to market conditions (three missions in each year); advisory missions in connection with the adoption, revision and implementation of RBPs legislation in developing countries (three missions in each year).

(b) Group training

Seminars, and backstopping thereof, related to the evaluation of access to market conditions (two seminars in each year); regional and subregional seminars relating to RBPs legislation and elimination or control of RBPs (five seminars in each year).

6. CO-ORDINATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON

Exchange of information with GATT; co-operation with regional commissions, especially with regard to enhancing the capacity of developing countries for analysis of access to market conditions; co-operation with UNCTC, ITC and with FAO and WFC, on food and agricultural problems.

2. Structural adjustment and trade expansion

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

Identification of salient features of structural changes and in-depth analysis of their underlying factors, including sectors such as agriculture, textiles, steel, footwear, other manufactures and services sector; analysis of structural adjustment policies and of trade policy reforms; analysis of economic integration processes; studies on systemic changes in selected developed and developing countries, their implication for international trade and particularly for trade opportunities of developing countries: analysis of issues relating to the implementation, utilisation, maintenance and improvement of GSP schemes, including origin rules, particularly for enhancing utilisation by the least developed countries and smaller beneficiaries; analysis of factors determining the export capacity and export performance of developing countries; review of trends in trade of manufactures and semi-manufactures and analysis of industrial collaboration and intra-industry trade issues; substantive support to technical co-operation relating to the GSP and other trade laws, strengthening export capacity of developing countries and trade policy reforms.

The results of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations will be taken into account in carrying out the work involved, where appropriate.

ACTIVITIES

2. PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

(a) Parliamentary documentation

Trade and Development Board

(i) Problems of protectionism and structural adjustment, and statistical and information annexes, Part II, 1992, 1993;

Special Committee on Preferences

(ii) Implementation of the generalized system of preferences, 1992, 1993;
(iii) Improvements in rules of origin, including harmonization, 1992;
(iv) Technical co-operation in connection with the GSP, 1992, 1993;

Committee on Manufactures

(v) Factors affecting exports of manufactures and semi-manufactures from developing countries, 1992;
(vi) Trade in manufactures and semi-manufactures of developing countries and territories, 1992;
(vii) Work programme of the Committee, 1992.

(b) Substantive services

(i) Trade and Development Board, annual, 1992, 1993;
(ii) Special Committee on Preferences, annual, 1992, 1993;
(iii) Committee on Manufactures, biennial, 1992.

(d) Ad hoc expert groups and related preparatory work

Ad hoc expert group on linkages between structural adjustment and trade policies, to evaluate factors which may determine trade policy strategies of developing countries for the 1990's; preparation of background material on the above subject, 1992.

3. PUBLISHED MATERIAL

(b) Non-recurrent publications

(i) A study of the contribution of foreign investment and industrial collaboration to the growth of exports of manufactures and semi-manufactures of developing countries, 1992;
(ii) Eight country studies on national policies, including trade regimes, having an impact on the expansion and diversification of exports of manufactures and semi-manufactures of developing countries, 1992, 1993;
(iii) Sectoral study of current and potential export interest to developing countries in the field of manufactures and semi-manufactures, 1992;
(iv) Revisions to GSP handbooks, 1992, 1993.
(v) Developments and issues related to bilateral and plurilateral arrangements and economic integration processes with a major impact on the trade and development of developing countries, 1992;
(vi) Impact of the results of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations on the GSP, 1992 or 1993;
(vii) Two studies on systemic changes in selected developed and developing countries, implications for international trade and particularly for trade with developing countries, 1992, 1993.

5. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

(a) Advisory services

Advisory missions, and backstopping thereof, relating to trade policy reforms in developing countries (three missions in each year); advisory missions in connection with the implementation of the GSP (three missions in each year).

(b) Group training

Seminars, and backstopping thereof, on trade policies in developing countries (three seminars in each year); national and sub-regional seminars relating to the implementation of the GSP (6 seminars in each year).

6. CO-ORDINATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON

Joint activities with UNCTC, especially on the relationship between trade and foreign investment; exchange of information with UNIDO and the World Bank; co-operation with regional commissions.

3. Cross-sectoral issues

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

Study of, and research on, developments in international trade relations; study of further integration of countries into the international trading system; in-depth studies on the role of services in the development process and on services sectors of priority interest to developing countries and development of a data base in the field of services; support to the development and strengthening of the capacity of developing countries to derive full benefit from international trade agreements; substantive support to technical co-operation in these areas.

The results of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations will be taken into account in carrying out the work involved where appropriate.

ACTIVITIES

2. PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

(a) Parliamentary documentation

Trade and Development Board

(i) Developments in the international trading system, 1992, 1993;
(ii) Services sectors of priority interest to developing countries, 1992, 1993.

(b) Substantive services

Trade and Development Board, annual, 1992, 1993.

(d) Ad hoc expert groups and related preparatory work

Ad hoc export group on in-depth developments in international trade relations, of particular relevance to international negotiations, and background note on the above subject, 1992.

3. PUBLISHED MATERIAL

(b) Non-recurrent publications

(i) Selected papers on the international trading system, 1992, 1993;
(ii) Studies on services, 1992, 1993;
(iii) Studies on further integration of countries into the international trading system, 1992, 1993.

5. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

(a) Advisory services

Advisory missions, and backstopping thereof, related to the implementation of agreements in international trade by developing countries (three missions in each year); advisory missions related to the elaboration of national studies on services (eight missions in each year); advisory missions related to trade between developing countries and countries in Central and Eastern Europe (four missions in each year).

(b) Group training

National, sub-regional and regional seminars on enhancing the capacity of developing countries to take fuller advantage of their participation in international trade agreements (three seminars in each year); seminars assessing the role of services in economics of developing countries and on possibilities for international co-operation (four seminars in each year); regional and subregional seminars relating to trade between developing countries and countries in Central and Eastern Europe (three events each year); backstopping of the aforementioned activities.

6. CO-ORDINATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON

Joint activities with regional commissions, particularly with regard to the implementation of agreements in international trade; consultations with GATT; joint activities with UNCTC in the field of services: exchange of information with WTO; co-operation with UNSO in the area of services statistics, IMF, the World Bank and EBRD.

4. Transfer of Technology

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

Within the objectives set out in the subprogramme for the Medium-term Plan for the period 1992-1997, the orientation of activities will be centred around the enhancement of national technological and innovative capabilities in developing countries, including those of the enterprises through international co-operation, including intergovernmental agreements and co-operation between enterprises aimed at promoting the international transfer of technology, particularly to developing countries, under equitable terms and conditions and through appropriate national technology-related policies. Emphasis will also be placed on assessing the challenges and opportunities created by technological change, including advances in new technology, for the trade and development prospects of developing countries.

ACTIVITIES

2. PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

(a) Parliamentary documentation

(i) Report to the Committee on Transfer of Technology on selected issues in the transfer and development of technology, 1993;

(ii) Review of the work programme of the Committee on Transfer of Technology, 1993;
(iii) Report to the Committee on Transfer of Technology on activities of the Advisory Service on Transfer of Technology, 1993;
(iv) Two reports to the General Assembly on the outcome of consultations and negotiations on an International Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology, 1992, 1993;
(v) Report to a United Nations Conference on an International Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology, on issues outstanding in the Draft Code, subject to a decision by the General Assembly to convene the Conference, 1992;
(vi) Report to the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on the economic, commercial and developmental aspects of the industrial property system on the transfer of technology to developing countries, subject to intergovernmental decision, 1992.

(b) Substantive services

(i) Committee on Transfer of Technology, at its ninth session, biennial, 1993;
(ii) United Nations Conference on an International Code of Conduct on the Transfer of Technology, subject to a decision by the General Assembly to convene the Conference, 1992;
(iii) Intergovernmental Group of Experts on the economic, commercial and developmental aspects of the industrial property system in the transfer of technology to developing countries, subject to intergovernmental decision, 1993.

(d) Ad hoc expert groups and related preparatory work

Ad hoc expert group on methodology for assessing the implications of technological change for trade, 1992;

3. PUBLISHED MATERIAL

(a) Recurrent publications

Periodic report on national laws, policies and regulations on the transfer and development of technology, 1993.

(b) Non-recurrent publications

(i) Role of technological dynamism in developing countries' trade and development, 1993;
(ii) New technologies and trade prospects of developing countries, 1993;
(iii) Technological change and international competitiveness in selected industries and services sector, 1993;
(iv) Recent developments affecting the transfer of technology to developing countries, 1992;
(v) Factors affecting the financing of the transfer and development of technology in developing countries, 1993;
(vi) Environmental dimension of technology transfer, 1992;

(vii) Opportunities for international co-operation in the development and transfer of technology: experience gained in the establishment of joint research and development programmes, 1992;

(viii) Study on the economic, commercial and developmental aspects of recent trends in the industrial property system and their implications for the transfer of technology to the developing countries, 1992;

(ix) Two case studies relating to promotion and encouragement of technological innovation and protection of industrial property, 1993;

(x) Compilation of material on fiscal and financial incentives for the promotion of technological innovation, 1993;

(xi) New approaches and modalities for technological co-operation in selected areas within a sustainable development perspective: selected policy issues and practical cases, 1992;

(xii) Two reports on selected policy aspects of the transfer and development of technology at the national level, 1992, 1993;

(xiii) Utilization and commercialization of R & D results: selected cases, 1992;

(xiv) Documentation on human resource development activities, 1992, 1993.

(c) Technical material

(i) Data base on licensing agreements in respect of computer programmes, integrated circuits and biotechnology, 1993;

(ii) Data base on national laws and regulations on the transfer and development of technology, 1993;

(iii) Data base on technology-related institutions offering co-operation opportunities to developing countries, 1993.

5. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

(a) Advisory Services

(i) Substantive advice and support to developing countries and inter-country institutions on the strengthening of mechanisms for promoting the acquisition, transfer and development of technology, including related institutional arrangements, laws and regulations, and with particular reference to the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s, 1992, 1993;

(ii) Substantive advice and support to developing countries in the formulation and implementation of strategies, plans, policies, laws, regulations and procedures aimed at promoting the acquisition, transfer and development of technology, including measures for technological co-operation among developing countries, 1992, 1993;

(iii) Substantive advice and support to developing countries in the formulation of strategies, policies and programmes, including action plans for the technological development of sectors and areas of critical importance to their trade and development objectives, 1992, 1993;

(iv) Substantive advice to governments and institutions on the design and formulation of technical co-operation programmes and projects in the field of technology, including the nature of resource requirements for submission to financing agencies, three in 1992, three in 1993.

(b) Group training

Subregional or regional workshops and seminars on technology transfer and development, and support to UNCTAD organized national and/or inter-country workshops, seminars and similar events on technology policies on interrelationships between technology transfer and trade, 1992, 1993.

6. CO-ORDINATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON

Co-ordination and co-operation on activities in the technology field with other programmes will be further developed and expanded, notably with programmes executed by the United Nations Centre for Transnational Corporations and the Centre for Science and Technology for Development. Among the priority issues for such co-operation is the interrelationship between technology, trade and investment. In implementing the activities set out above, every effort will be made to take advantage of the complementarity that exists between the work of different organizations of the United Nations system in the technology field. For this purpose, active participation will continue in formal co-ordinating mechanisms, such as the ACC Task Force on Science and Technology for Development and in joint activities that may be agreed upon with other United Nations agencies in the technology field.

6. Commmodities

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

During the biennium emphasis will be given to promoting transparency and the better functioning of commodity markets and to strengthening international co-operation between producers and consumers in those areas; to identifying specific practical measures and actions, especially for highly commodity-dependent and low-income developing countries, in the areas of diversification, processing, marketing and distribution of commodities; to integrating systematically in the work on commodities the concept of sustainable development; to identifying all the facets of the problem of commodity export earnings shortfalls; and to seeking lasting solutions to problems in the commodity area taking into account the varying performances between countries and regions and among commodities as well as the potential for expanding South-South trade.

ACTIVITIES

1. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

(b) Promotion of legal instruments

The convening of United Nations Conferences subject to the decision of Governments to renegotiate:
The International Cocoa Agreement, 1986;

The International Sugar Agreement, 1987;
The International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1983;
The International Natural Rubber Agreement, 1987;
The International Wheat Agreement, 1986;
The International Agreement on Olive Oil and Table Olives, 1986.

2. PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

(a) Parliamentary documentation

I. General Assembly
(i) World commodity trends and prospects, with particular reference to the situation of commodity-dependent developing countries, 1992.

II. United Nations Cocoa Conference
(i) Draft international cocoa agreement to replace the 1986 Agreement, 1992;
(ii) Historical development, status and operation of the International Cocoa Agreement, 1986, 1992.

III. United Nations Sugar Conference
(i) Historical development, status and operation of the International Sugar Agreement, 1986, 1992;
(ii) Draft international sugar agreement to replace the 1986 Agreement, 1992.

IV. United Nations Tropical Timber Conference
(i) Historical development, status and operation of the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1983, 1993;
(ii) Draft international tropical timber agreement to replace the 1983 Agreement, 1993.

V. United Nations Natural Rubber Conference
(i) Historical development, status and operation of the International Natural Rubber Agreement, 1987, 1993;
(ii) Draft international natural rubber agreement to replace the 1987 Agreement, 1993.

VI. United Nations Wheat Conference
(i) Historical development, status and operation of the International Wheat Agreement, 1986, 1993;
(ii) Draft international wheat agreement to replace the 1986 Agreement, 1993.

VII. United Nations Olive Oil and Table Olives Conference
(i) Historical development, status and operation of the International Agreement on Olive Oil and Table Olives, 1986, 1993;
(ii) Draft international olive oil and table olives agreement to replace the 1986 Agreement, 1993.

VIII. Committee on Commodities
(i) Commodity situation and outlook, 1992;
(ii) The impact of market conditions in exporting and importing countries with regard to diversification, including government policies, structural adjustment and forms and methods of trading, 1992; (HP)

(iii) Work programme of the Committee, 1992;
(iv) Reports of the Committee on Tungsten on its twenty-second, twenty-third, twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth sessions, 1992;
(v) Reports of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Iron Ore on its fifth, sixth and seventh sessions, 1992.

IX. Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Iron Ore
(i) Review of the current market situation and outlook for iron ore, 1992 and 1993;
(ii) Annotated bibliography on iron ore, 1992 and 1993.

X. Committee on Tungsten
(i) Review of the current market situation and outlook, 1992 and 1993;
(ii) Project proposals to be submitted for possible financing under the Second Account of the Common Fund for Commodities, 1992 and 1993;
(iii) Study on the tungsten industry of the USSR; 1992.

XI. Ad hoc meetings as may be required on bauxite, manganese and tin
(i) Reviews of market situation and outlook, two in 1992 and and one in 1993, subject to requests by Governments.

(b) Substantive services

(i) General Assembly, forty-seventh session, annually, 1992;
(ii) United Nations Cocoa Conference, 1992;
(iii) United Nations Sugar Conference, 1992;
(iv) United Nations Tropical Timber Conference, 1993;
(v) United Nations Natural Rubber Conference, 1993;
(vi) United Nations Wheat Conference, 1993;
(vii) United Nations Olive Oil and Table Olives Conference, 1993;
(viii) Trade and Development Board, biannually, 1992, 1993;
(ix) Committee on Commodities, fifteenth session, biennially, 1992;
(x) Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Iron Ore, sixth and seventh sessions, annually, 1992, 1993;
(xi) Committee on Tungsten, twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth sessions, annually, 1992, 1993;
(xii) Ad hoc meetings on bauxite, manganese and tin as may be required.
(xiii) Producer/Consumer consultations on individual commodities where appropriate and feasible.

(d) Ad hoc expert groups and related preparatory work

(i) Ad hoc expert group on new materials, technological advances, and new processes in the utilization of raw materials: Impact and potential for developing commodity exporting countries; and an issues paper describing developments and raising questions about their impact and ability of developing countries to benefit from them, 1993.

(ii) Ad hoc expert group on the role of the mineral sector in the development process of developing countries; and an issues paper drawing together the findings of three regional seminars on this subject, 1992.

3. PUBLISHED MATERIALS

(a) Recurrent publications

(i) Report of the Committee on Commodities on its fifteenth session, 1992;
(ii) Reports of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Iron Ore on its sixth and seventh sessions, 1992, 1993;
(iii) Reports of the Committee on Tungsten on its twenty-fourth and twenty-fifth sessions, 1992, 1993.

(b) Non-recurrent publications

(i) International Cocoa Agreement, 1992;
(ii) International Sugar Agreement, 1992;
(iii) International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1993;
(iv) International Natural Rubber Agreement, 1993;
(v) International Wheat Agreement, 1993;
(vi) International Agreement on Olive Oil and Table Olives, 1993;
(vii) Final report on the role of the minerals sector in the development process, 1992;
(viii) Commodity situation and outlook, 1992;

(c) Technical material

(i) Market reviews on individual mineral commodities: chromite, 1992; silver, phosphates and sulphur, 1993; (LP)
(ii) Country case studies on ways and means of enhancing the contribution of mineral commodities to the economies of developing countries: Guinea and Surinam, 1992; Namibia and Philippines, 1993;
(iii) Market opportunities in selected Central and Eastern European countries for commodities from developing countries, 1992; (HP)
(iv) Links between domestic as well as international market conditions and the intensity of resource utilization, especially environmental effects, 1992; (HP)
(v) The changing pattern and structure of world commodity trade: a quantitive analysis, 1992; (LP)
(vi) Implications of advanced materials and technological changes for world commodity trade and producer-consumer relationships, 1992;
(vii) The competitiveness and demand for environmentally-friendly products based on natural raw materials vis-à-vis synthetics and substitutes, 1993;
(viii) Impact of financial constraints, including debt servicing on commodity exports of developing countries (synthesis of 6 case studies two in each developing region), 1993; (HP)
(ix) The inclusion of full environmental and natural resource costs in the prices of products and its potential impact on developing countries, 1993;
(x) The relationship between international commodity prices and relevant domestic prices with special emphasis on the pass-through mechanisms and the implications for commodity demand, 1993; (LP)
(xi) Commodity trade among developing countries: special problems and requirements, 1993;

(xii) The problem of commodity export earnings shortfalls of developing countries arising from market instability as well as the question of compensatory financing of export earnings shortfalls, including causes, consequences and instruments such as compensatory financing, 1992;

(xiii) Financial instruments such as hedging, commodity swaps, etc. to assist developing countries in managing price and other commodity-related risks, 1993;

(xiv) Case studies on the impact of market conditions with regard to diversification, including government policies, structural adjustment, forms and methods of trading and technical assistance: Colombia, Guyana, Mali, Senegal, 1992; Fiji, Indonesia, 1993; (LP)

(xv) Industry and market structures for individual commodities of major export interest to commodity-exporting countries: bauxite, coal, coffee, iron ore, phosphates, sugar, 1992; hides and skins, fisheries, gemstones, gold, tea, timber, 1993;

(xvi) Inventory of the criteria for the evaluation of diversification projects, 1993;

(xvii) Information on specific technical assistance needs and availabilities relevant to diversification, processing, marketing and distribution, including transportation, 1993;

(xviii) Financial resources for diversification and their modalities, 1993;

(xix) Users guide for a micro-computer-based commodity information and analysis system (MICAS), 1992;

(xx) Diskettes containing MICAS data bases; palm and coconut products and bauxite, 1992; coal, coffee, iron ore, phosphates, sugar, 1993.

5. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

(a) Advisory services

Advice to Governments and commodity bodies relating to the operation and functioning of international commodity agreements and arrangements (1992-1993); to Governments and enterprises on food trading (32 missions in 1992 and 1993); and to Governments in relation to improvement of technical and institutional capacities to formulate and implement commodity sector policies and programmes (20 missions in 1992 and 1993); assistance in installing MICAS for selected commodities (3 in 1992, 5 in 1993).

(b) Group training

Multi-country workshops will be held, and substantive support provided, in relation to improvement of commodity export policy-making; the promotion of commodity processing; the use of the MICAS system; the relationship between environmental considerations and commodity export expansion and on the implications of developments in Eastern Europe for raw material exports of developing countries. Country-level workshops will be held in relation to food trading (1992-1993).

6. CO-ORDINATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON

(i) In view of the central co-ordinating role of UNCTAD in the field of commodities it is necessary to maintain close contacts with the following intergovernmental producer/consumer commodity bodies, namely: the International Cocoa Organization, the International Coffee Organization, the International Jute Organization, the International Natural Rubber Council, the International Rubber Study Group, the International Olive Oil Council, the International Sugar Organization, the International Tropical Timber Organization, the International Wheat Council, the International Lead and Zinc Study Group, the International Nickel Study Group, the International Copper Study Group expected to be established in 1991, the International Cotton Advisory Committee, the FAO Intergovernmental groups on various agricultural commodities and the GATT bodies dealing with commodities as well as the Common Fund for Commodities. In addition, close contacts are maintained with interregional and regional commodity producer organizations as well as with non-governmental commodity bodies, in particular industry associations and other intergovernmental bodies, notably the OECD, the Commission of the European Communities, and the Secretariats of the ACP, SELA and OAU;

(ii) Co-operation and co-ordination in particular with the UNCTAD/GATT ITC UNDP, UNCSTD, UNCTC, UNDTCD, UNEP, United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, DIESA and the regional commissions;

(iii) Exchange of information and co-ordination of activities with the specialized agencies of the United Nations, particularly with the FAO, UNIDO, ILO, IBRD, IMF and the regional and subregional development banks.

7. Economic co-operation among developing countries

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

(i) To promote trade co-operation and expansion among developing countries and exploit fully the potential for increasing trade among developing countries;

(ii) To foster co-operation among public and private enterprises and business organizations of developing countries; promote increased investment flows and transfer of technology among developing countries; and encourage the role of the enterprise sector in enhancing co-operation among developing countries in the areas of trade, production, investments and services;

(iii) To strengthen subregional, regional and interregional economic co-operation and integration groupings and schemes of developing countries and foster co-operation among such groupings;

(iv) To reduce monetary and financial obstacles to the expansion of trade among developing countries through effective mobilization of the financial resources of developing countries for their own development and mutual trade;

(v) To promote financial flows among developing countries, strengthen their domestic capital markets and strengthen and improve existing clearing and payments arrangements at the subregional, regional and interregional levels as instruments of economic co-operation among developing countries;

(vi) To promote the possible establishment of trade financing and other relevant facilities in support of trade expansion among developing countries and further enhance the evolution of monetary and financial integration of regional and subregional integration groupings of developing countries.

ACTIVITIES

2. PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

(a) Parliamentary documentation

(i) Report on recent developments in the area of economic co-operation among developing countries, Committee on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, 1993;
(ii) Report on areas for new initiatives, Committee on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, 1993;
(iii) Review of the work programme of the Committee, Committee on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, 1993;
(iv) Reports of the Committee on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries on its sixth and seventh sessions, 1992, 1993.

(b) Substantive services

(i) Committee on Economic Co-operation among Developing Countries, sixth and seventh sessions, 1992, 1993;
(ii) Co-ordination Committee on Multilateral Payments Arrangements and Monetary Co-operation among Developing Countries, 1992 and 1993; (HP)

(d) Ad hoc Expert Groups

Ad hoc expert group on monetary and financial co-operation in support of trade expansion among developing countries, 1993;

3. PUBLISHED MATERIAL

(a) Recurrent publications

South-South Co-operation: Trade, Monetary and Financial Co-operation Review, 1992, 1993;

(c) Technical material

(i) Analysis of trade and trade policy measures and countertrade in developing countries covering four regions, 1992, 1993; (LP)
(ii) Estimation of trade flows among developing countries: demand and supply analysis on a product-by-product basis, 1993;
(iii) Evaluation and assessment of progress achieved in the implementation of trade preferences among developing countries, 1992, 1993;
(iv) Assessment of changes in trade control measures and their implications on trade among developing countries, 1992;
(v) The impact of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations on the expansion of trade among developing countries, 1992;

(vi) Issues and priorities for promoting investment flows among developing countries particularly through the involvement of the enterprise sector, 1992;

(vii) Issues and priorities for enhancing transfer of technology among developing countries, 1992;

(viii) Study on technology transfer among developing countries as it relates to the small and medium-sized enterprises, 1992;

(ix) Review of recent developments in economic integration groupings of developing countries with index of main groupings and statistical annex, 1993;

(x) Economic integration among developing countries: some key issues, measures and actions for further enhancing regional integration process, 1993; (HP)

(xi) Analysis of financial and other support to regional and subregional integration groupings and possible approaches to improve their scope and effectiveness, 1992;

(xii) Survey of the process of regional co-operation in selected integration groupings (ASEAN, ALADI); and possible support and assistance from bilateral and multilateral sources to selected integration groupings to benefit from experiences of other groupings, 1992;

(xiii) Trade liberalization among developing countries and their groupings: an assessment of the fiscal, budgetary and general economic implications, 1992, 1993;

(xiv) Industrial development in selected sectors (electronic and TV sectors, steel, car manufacturing, spare parts, pharmaceuticals) of developing countries and their implications for trade among developing countries, 1992;

(xv) Measures for mobilizing domestic and regional resources for monetary and financial co-operation among developing countries, 1992;

(xvi) Analysis of technical issues relating to the operation of clearing and payments arrangements among developing countries; 1992 and 1993;

(xvii) Analysis and policy implications of domestic, regional and subregional export financing agencies of developing countries; 1993; (HP)

(xviii) Co-operation among member countries of regional and subregional payments and credit institutions: policy proposals in priority areas, 1992, 1993;

(xix) Currency convertibility and monetary co-operation within integration groupings of developing countries, 1993;

(xx) Review of recent developments in the area of business information among developing countries, 1993; (LP)

(xxi) A handbook on financial control measures affecting trade among developing countries, 1993;

(xxii) Development of a data base with computer software for the establishment of a banking electronic payment system to facilitate the settlements of intra-developing countries' trade, 1993. (LP)

5. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

(a) Advisory services

Advisory missions, and support thereof, to governments and economic integration groupings on problems of integration, and on measures for the encouragement of the enterprise sectors.

(b) Group training

Training events will be organized, and supported, in relation to the improvement of the link between R & D institutions and enterprises with a view to strengthening the role of ECDC with regard to small and medium-sized enterprises of developing countries; enhancement and encouragement of the role of the enterprise sector; ways and means of obtaining technical and other support for regional and subregional co-operation and integration efforts, 1992, 1993.

6. CO-ORDINATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON

Promotion and expansion of economic co-operation among developing countries in pursuance of resolution 45/203 of the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, by which the Assembly has designated the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as the principal organization in the United Nations system dealing with such co-operation. In this context, UNCTAD will co-ordinate closely with DIESA, the regional commissions and specialized agencies, in particular IMF and the World Bank.

8. Maritime and multimodal transport

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

In the field of shipping priority will be given to the promotion of the global maritime sector through government policy and operational activities, in order to support a rational and balanced expansion of global shipping services to meet the needs of international trade and to enable developing countries to participate in world shipping on an equitable basis.

In the field of ports analytical work will cover all matters related to port improvement, development and operations with emphasis on the specific problems and needs of developing countries and new developments, in particular, the new role that ports are playing as nodal points of integrated transport chain and services centres.

In the field of multimodal transport and technological developments emphasis will be given to consideration of: (i) the concept of physical distribution, (ii) the impact of mega multimodal transport operators in developing countries, (iii) the promotion of freight forwarders in developing countries, and (iv) the impact of new container dimensions on the economies of developing countries.

The work on maritime legislation will focus on: (i) maritime liens and mortgages; (ii) arrest of seagoing ships*; (iii) general average; (iv) charter parties*; (v) maritime advisory exchange (MAE); (vi) sea waybills; (vii) promotion of international rules and instruments, notably the United Nations international conventions adopted under the auspices of UNCTAD as well as the UNCTAD Model Clauses on Marine Hull and Cargo Insurance and UNCTAD Minimum Standards on Shipping Agents.

Support to the expanding requests through the TRAINMAR Programme will be given on a regular basis to Governments and training centres established as part of that Programme in the development and maintenance of their own training programmes through the provision of substantive materials and other substantive support and guidance, and assistance in harmonizing their efforts with related work of other organizations.

ACTIVITIES

2. PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

(a) Parliamentary documentation

(i) Substantive comments on the draft Convention on Maritime Liens and Mortgages, 1992;
(ii) Rules of procedure for the United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on a Convention on Maritime Liens and Mortgages, 1992;
(iii) Developments in the world maritime sector, 1992;
(iv) Review of multimodal transport and ports activities, 1992;
(v) Future work programme of the Committee on Shipping, 1992;
(vi) Future direction on general average, Working Group on International Shipping Legislation, 1992;
(vii) Summary of port activities and future work, Intergovernmental Group of Port Experts, 1993;
(viii) Charter parties, Working Group on International Shipping Legislation, 1993;*

(b) Substantive services

(i) United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on a Convention on Maritime Liens and Mortgages, 1992;
(ii) Committee on Shipping, biennial, 1992;
(iii) Working Group on International Shipping Legislation, fourteenth and fifteenth sessions, annual, 1992, 1993;
(iv) Intergovernmental Group of Port Experts, third session, 1993, expected mandate from Committee on Shipping, every 2/3 years;

(d) Ad hoc expert groups and related preparatory work

Group of experts to examine developments in multimodal transport, 1992.

3. Published Material

(a) Recurrent publications

Annual Review of Maritime Transport, annual, 1992, 1993.

(b) Non-recurrent publications

(i) Shipping in the nineties, 1992 (HP);
(ii) Changes in liner shipping and their impact on shippers' interests, 1992;
(iii) Maritime transport of selected commodities, 2 studies, 1992-1993, (LP);
(iv) Ship acquisition pre- feasibility studies, 3 during the biennum 1992-93;
(v) Economic co-operation among developing countries in shipping, 1993;
(vi) The principles of modern port management and organization, 1992 (HP);
(vii) Development of the commercial function, promotion of the port area and of the concept of the port as a service centre, 1992 (HP);

(viii) Development of human resources in the field of ports, 1993;
(ix) The legal and regulatory aspects of port activities, 1992;
(x) Strategic port planning, 1992;
(xi) Relations between the city and the port, 1992 (LP);
(xii) Monograph on port pricing structure, 1992;
(xiii) Two monographs on port operations and development, 1993;
(xiv) The fixing of port tariffs and port finance, 1993;
(xv) Transhipment, 1993;
(xvi) Trends in multimodal transport, 1992;
(xvii) Developments in physical distribution, 1992 (HP);
(xviii) Impact of mega multimodal transport operators, 1992 (HP);
(xix) Promotion of freight forwarders in developing countries, 1992 (LP);
(xx) Developments in electronic data interchange, 1992;
(xxi) Handbook on multimodal transport, 1992;
(xxii) Consideration of the 1952 Arrest Convention, 1993* (LP);
(xxiii) Final report on the implementation of the TRAINMAR Action Plan, 1993;

(c) Technical material

(i) Two sets of Improving Port Performance (IPP) courses on port pricing and marketing, 1992;
(ii) Two sets of IPP courses on port computerization and planning, 1993;
(iii) Multiship Model V, (computer software), 1993;
(iv) The UNCTAD Port Newsletter, annual, 1992, 1993;
(v) The Multimodal Transport Newsletter, annual, 1992, 1993;
(vi) The TRAINMAR Newsletter, quarterly, 1992, 1993;
(vii) The TRAINMAR Catalogue, annual, 1992, 1993.

5. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

(a) Advisory services

Related to maintenance and functioning of, and support to, the reference library for multimodal transport container tariff rules (LP); in support of TRAINMAR centres and networks, including approval and issue of a target eight courses per year; to developing countries in the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Liner Code of Conduct.

(b) Group training

Activities include the validation and delivery of training programmes in the field of port operations, development and administration (IPP Courses, two per year); the tenue of, and support to, two multimodal transport workshops per year; the establishment and development of a Post Graduate Diploma Course in Multimodal Transport (in co-operation with University of Simon Bolivar) and as part of the TRAINMAR programme the training of trainers through a target of six workshops per year. TRAINMAR activities will also be complemented by technical co-operation projects, to strengthen regional co-operation and to create new regional TRAINMAR centres.

---

*/ These items are subject to decision by the Committee on Shipping at its fifteenth session in October 1992.

(c) Field projects

Support is provided to field projects relating to shipping policy for land-locked countries, development of coastal and inter-island shipping services, reorganization, development and improvement of ports, multimodal transport and trade facilitation programmes including ACIS and harmonization and modernization of maritime legislation.

Furthermore UNCTAD will continue to play a major role in the implementation of development objectives set out in the Transport and Communication Decade for both Africa and Asia.

6. CO-ORDINATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON

In the implementation of the activities set out above, close co-ordination will be maintained with IMO, ILO and the regional commissions, including NGOs representing the private sector, and UNCTAD will continue to collaborate with UNCITRAL on aspects of maritime legislation.

9. Data Management and Trade Facilitation

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

The subprogramme provides the main data support for UNCTAD, including statistical and data processing services, the development and maintenance of informations systems, and development of and advice to Governments on trade procedures and documentation. In the field of statistics, the emphasis is on improvement of the availability and use of timely and reliable statistics from all sources in support of economic analysis and trade negotiations; in the field of electronic data processing, provision of and support to data processing services and development of computerized information systems to support the on-going work of the secretariat and technical co-operation activities; in the field of trade facilitation, development, maintenance and implementation of modern management tools for the monitoring and control of trade and transport operations, customs clearance and trade data interchange; in the field of trade control measures the emphasis is on the development and maintenance of the data base on trade control measures and its dissemination for use in trade promotion and negotiations.

ACTIVITIES

3. PUBLISHED MATERIAL

(a) Recurrent publications

(i) Handbook of International Trade and Development Statistics, annual, 1992, 1993;
(ii) Yearbook of International Commodity Statistics, annual, 1992, 1993;
(iii) Monthly Commodity Price Bulletin, monthly, 1992, 1993;
(iv) Tungsten statistics, quarterly, 1992, 1993.

(c) Technical material

(i) Database of economic and social statistics, 1993;
(ii) Data processing and informations systems including: an on-line information system (ETS) containing time series related to trade and development, with software to manipulate, analyze and tabulate data, 1992, 1993; an information system on transfers of technology, 1992, 1993; an in-house publishing system, including a table generator and several ad hoc programmes, to produce statistical tables and graphics for UNCTAD publications, 1993; interfaces between in-house and internally used software and applications, and external software and applications;
(iii) Handbook of Trade Control Measures, 1992;
(iv) Analytical statistics of trade control measures, 1992;
(v) Data base of trade control measures including introduction of environmental measures and expansion of country coverage; collection and classification of documentation of trade control measures, 1992, 1993;
(vi) Harmonized System-based Personal Computer Software (UNCTAD Micro Trade Control Measures System), 1992;
(vii) Tailor-made trade control measures information for dissemination to focal points and other users, 1992, 1993;
(viii) Studies, reports and working documents related to trade facilitation bodies to provide the basis for adoption of global infrastructures for international trade, 1992, 1993.

5. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

(a) Advisory services

Provided to Governments in connexion with technical co-operation activities relating to computer applications, including a portable software system to computerize customs operations in developing countries (ASYCUDA) and an information system on trade control measures (TCMIS); and in relation to the adoption of trade facilitation measures.

(b) Group training

(i) Installation and operation of the ASYCUDA system to requesting Governments;
(ii) Installation and operation of the UNCTAD Micro Trade Control Measures system in selected focal points and headquarters of regional groupings.

6. CO-ORDINATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON

In-house services are provided to UNCTAD to support statistical requirements; in relation to purchases, installation and use of computer hardware and software; and data processing applications and software for both ongoing work and in support of technical co-operation activities.

Co-ordination with statistical entities of the United Nations; liaison with other international bodies, including the World Bank and the Customs Co-operation Council and with the regional commissions and facilitation bodies in relation to comparability of systems and implementation of technical co-operation activities.

14. Development finance, resource flows and external debt

Introduction

The major programme priorities of the previous biennium - debt problems of developing countries and effective debt management - would continue over the 1992-1993 biennium, taking into account the outcome of UNCTAD VIII on its agenda. However, increased emphasis would be placed on private sector financial flows, in particular, new techniques of lending, including non-debt creating forms; and structural adjustment and mobilization of domestic savings. In addition, major new directions would be taken in effectively integrating into UNCTAD programmes the increased awareness by the international community of environmental issues and the concept of sustainable development, as reflected in the new mandate for UNCTAD arising out of TDB resolution 384(XXXVII). The interlinkages between availability and distribution of finance, patterns of investment and trade flows would need to be carefully explored. These new directions and emphases call for research and innovative thinking on the part of the secretariat in order to support adequately intergovernmental consideration of these issues.

1. External Financing and International monetary issues

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

Examination of trends in all categories of external financial flows to developing countries, including the volume and terms of these flows; changes in policies and donors performance on official flows (ODA performance, policies of official export credit agencies, lending policies of multilateral financial institution etc.); analysis of net financial transfers including their regional distribution; analysis of new flows (such as those related to environmental conservation) and new financing techniques (such as the new non-debt creating financial instruments).

Assessment of the impact of the international monetary system on the development process and of the problems created by fluctuating exchange rates and interest rates, including such questions as the efforts by the major industrialized countries to promote sustained non-inflationary growth and to develop co-ordinated macro-economic policies, taking into account the interests and concerns of all countries, including the particular concerns of the developing countries.

ACTIVITIES

2. PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

(a) Parliamentary documentation

(i) The external financing of development, Committee on Invisibles and Financing Related to Trade, 1992;
(ii) National policies aimed at attracting non-debt-creating flows, Committee on Invisbles and Financing Related to Trade, 1992;

(iii) Measures contributing to the evolution of an effective system of international financial co-operation; and comprehensive recording of financial flows, Committee on Invisibles and Financing Related to Trade, 1993;

(iv) Sector-and region-specific financial requirements, Committee on Invisible and Financing Related to Trade, 1993;

(v) International monetary issues, Committee on Invisibles and Financing Related to Trade 1993; Trade and Development Report 1992 and 1993; General Assembly, 1992, 1993.

(b) Substantive services:

The Committee on Invisibles and Financing related to Trade, biennial, 1992.

3. PUBLISHED MATERIAL

(c) Technical material:

Flows of financial resources from member States and institutions of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to other developing countries, 1992, 1993.

In addition, activities include maintenance of the statistical data base on flows of financial resources from OPEC member countries and institutions to other developing countries.

5. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Technical assistance, and related substantive support and advice, will be provided to the Group of 24 in the form of reviews of, and technical contributions to, reports and studies requested by the Group and participation in the Group's meetings.

6. CO-ORDINATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON

UNCTAD will continue to consult with IBRD, IMF, EBRD and other multilateral financial institutions in the area of development finance and international monetary issues.

2. Debt and development problems of developing countries

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

Research and analysis will be pursued on debt and development problems of developing countries in order to contribute to the elaboration, through intergovernmental dialogue and co-operation with competent bodies, of a flexible growth-oriented debt strategy. The questions of rescheduling techniques, debt alleviation measures and other measures by multilateral institutions and creditor governments, to facilitate this process, such as changes in certain fiscal and regulatory provisions will continue to be reviewed.

Research and analysis will be maintained at the country level in order to support the Secretary-General's participation in official debt rescheduling meetings, in particular Paris Club meetings, and assist requesting countries in the preparation of their presentations to such meetings.

Research capacity will be maintained in order to provide analytical and practical advice in the development of effective debt management systems. UNCTAD's activities will give increased emphasis to the institutional aspect of debt management as an indispensable complement to the installation of a computerized system.

ACTIVITIES

2. PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

(a) Parliamentary documentation

(i) Implementation of the guidelines contained in Board resolution 222(XXI) as well as of the provisions of decision 288(XXVIII) and of resolution 358(XXXV); and analysis of problems that developing countries have encountered in bilateral debt reschedulings, Trade and Development Board, 1992;

(ii) Aspects of the debt issue, including the need for debt relief measures, debt reorganization and improved debt management, Trade and Development Board, 1992, 1993;

(iii) Statistics on external debt, Committee on Invisibles and Financing Related to Trade, 1992, 1993;

(iv) Report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the General Assembly on progress towards a durable resolution to the debt problem, General Assembly, 1992, 1993.

(b) Substantive services

(i) The Trade and Development Board, annual, 1992, 1993;

(ii) Committee on Invisibles and Financing related to Trade, biennial, 1992.

3. PUBLISHED MATERIAL

(c) Technical material:

Reports to multilateral debt rescheduling meetings on the economic situation and prospects of countries requesting debt relief, approximately 15-18 meetings per year, 1992, 1993.

4. INFORMATION MATERIALS AND SERVICES

Exhibits and other visual material

UNCTAD will give demonstrations of its new Debt Management and Financial Analysis System (Paris Club meetings, World Bank meeting, ESCAP seminars, UNCTC meetings etc.).

5. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

(a) Advisory Services

(i) Assistance will be provided to requesting countries in their presentations to multilateral debt rescheduling meetings (Paris Club);

(ii) Technical assistance will be given and supported, with the objective of strengthening the capacity of developing countries to manage their foreign debt through assistance in developing appropriate internal management procedures and the development and installation of software for a computer-based debt management information system, (The Debt Management and Financial Analysis System - DMFAS). In order to support UNCTAD's research and policy analysis up-to-date and comprehensive data bases relating to the external debt of developing countries will be maintained. The computer-based debt management information system (DMFAS) will be revised in order to adjust to the rapidly changing requirements of external debt management.

(b) Group training

(i) Within the framework of the country assistance packages for installation and implementation of DMFAS, UNCTAD will provide training to operate and manage the system and develop a training capacity to disseminate the skills and knowledge required to optimize the gains derived from it. Training will be done at site, regionally or centrally (1 or 2 seminars per year in Geneva);

(ii) In view of the similarity between the installation and functioning of the system in various developing countries, UNCTAD will give more attention to technical co-operation among developing countries themselves, in particular in respect of institutional matters. To this end, regular and ad hoc contacts and workshops at inter-regional, regional and sub-regional levels will be envisaged, and supported.

6. CO-ORDINATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON

UNCTAD will collaborate closely with DIESA on global analysis of the debt situation; continue to co-ordinate its work with IBRD, IMF and other multilateral institutions active in the field of debt management; and continue to co-operate with UNITAR on training related to debt management.

3. Interdependence and intersectoral support

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

Research and analysis on issues of interdependence, both among sectors and geographic areas, encompassing relationships between short-term phenomena and policy issues and longer-term development trends and objectives; consideration of the determinants of the adjustment experience and of the generation and mobilization of savings; development of national banking systems and of capital and stock markets and related issues, such as the financing of privatization and the role of financial services in development, taking into account national objectives and policies.

Review of the progress of the International Development strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade in UNCTAD's fields of competence.

Research and analysis on issues of sustainable development, including elaboration of innovative thinking and increased awareness in the area of environmental development economics (TDB decision 384(XXXVII), para. 3); examination of other relevant intersectoral development issues, including an interface between sustainable development and policies and mechanisms in environmentally sensitive sectors as well as structural policies such as those relating to the enterprise sector, in accordance with paragraph 7 of Board decision 384 (XXVII).

ACTIVITIES

2. PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

(a) Parliamentary documentation:

(i) Aspects of interdependence among trade, development, money and finance, Trade and Development Board and the General Assembly, 1992, 1993;

(ii) Trade and development matters in the context of the International Development Strategy for the fourth United Nations Development Decade, Trade and Development Board and the General Assembly, as required in 1992, 1993;

(iii) Determinants of the results of the adjustment experiences in member countries (1992), the nature of structural adjustment measures and the external contributory factors, Committee on Invisibles and Financing Related to Trade, 1992;

(iv) National policies aimed at increasing domestic savings; the role of fiscal policies in determining the magnitude and pattern of savings, Committee on Invisibles and Financing Related to Trade, 1992;

(v) Contribution to UNCED and documentation on sustainable development issues for the Trade and Development Board, 1992;

(vi) Short-term and medium-term economic prospects of developing countries and regions and commodity market prospects;

(vii) The secretariat will provide up-to-date quantitative analyses, including short-term to medium-term forecasts and longer-term scenarios, to support the effective examination by intergovernmental bodies of the economic situation of developing countries, collectively and individually, and of the world economy as a whole;

(viii) It will also provide projection and scenario analysis for documentation prepared in connection with the Special Programme for Least Developed, Land-locked and Island Developing Countries and other programmes and activities of UNCTAD as requested.

(b) Substantive services:

Trade and Development Board, annual, 1992, 1993;

The Committee on Invisibles and Financing related to Trade, biennial, 1992.

(d) Ad hoc expert groups and related preparatory work:

An ad hoc expert group would be convened to examine problems and policies related to mobilization of domestic resources, 1992.

3. PUBLISHED MATERIAL

(a) Recurrent publications:

Trade and Development Report, annual, 1992, 1993;

(c) Technical material:

Improvements will be made to the system for Interlinked global Modelling and Analysis (SIGMA) by making use of new simulation techniques to address more precisely problems of policy co-ordination among countries and among sectors in a context of uncertainty.

6. CO-ORDINATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON

The secretariat will establish and improve exchanges with DIESA and other entities and organizations, inside and outside the United Nations system, on the economic outlook, policy issues related to the outlook, timely national and international statistics, and progress in model building and simulation analysis as well as on sustainable development and environment and development issues, through regional and interregional meetings and bilateral contacts. In addition, it will continue to respond to requests from other secretariats for input into their documentation in the areas outlined above. Co-operation with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), on the preparations for the Conference in 1992 and follow-up.

4. Insurance

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

Assistance to developing countries in improving the technical and economic performance of their insurance markets so that these can cover to a larger degree the insurance operations generated by their national economic activities; and in efforts to improve the regulatory framework of insurance operations, extend insurance cover to new strata of their population and support measures encouraging an increase in the volume of insurance business underwritten and retained domestically.

The results of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations will be taken into account in carrying out the work involved, where appropriate.

ACTIVITIES

2. PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

(a) Parliamentary documentation

(i) Study on Agricultural Insurance, 1992, (HP);
(ii) Insurance Review, Committee on Invisibles and Financing Related to Trade, 1992, (HP);
(iii) Statistics on Insurance and Reinsurance in Developing Countries, Committee on Invisibles and Financing Related to Trade, 1992;

(iv) Progress report on Study on Prudential Regulations, Committee on Invisibles and Financing Related to Trade, 1992;

(v) Study on ways to improve the investment performance of life insurers in developing countries, 1992, (LP).

(b) Substantive services

Committee on Invisibles and Financing Related to Trade, biennial, 1992.

5. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

(a) Advisory Services

Advice to Governments and insurance installations, and support thereto, in developing countries and regional insurance organizations on measures to strengthen insurance/reinsurance markets of individual or groups of developing countries, 1992, 1993.

(b) Group training

Seminars and workshops, and support thereto, to assist developing countries to improve the technical and economic performance of the insurance sector, including insurance regulations and supervision; enhancement of expertise and managerial capacity; special training to provide development, administration and marketing of agricultural insurance.

6. CO-ORDINATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON

Liaison and co-operation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the field of insurance.

15. Least developed, land-locked and island developing countries, and special programmes

Introduction

The objective of the work programme on the least developed countries for the 1992-1993 biennium is to initiate and promote the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990's, which calls for considerable reorientation and expansion of activities compared with the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980's, which it replaced. Strengthened and reoriented secretariat services are called for, in particular in respect of the various stages of the follow-up, monitoring and review mechanisms called for in the Programme of Action, including arrangements for improved inter-country and inter-agency co-ordination.

In co-operation with other organizations concerned, organs and agencies of the United Nations system, UNCTAD is to serve as the focal point for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action and the follow-up at the global level. It is also to provide support at the regional level, and make the necessary links between the national and global levels. Each spring session of the Trade and Development Board would review progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action.

The global level review mechanism would focus on the following elements:

(i) Analysis and comparison of the experience and lessons learned from the formulation and implementation of the policy framework plans and the functioning of the country level co-ordination arrangements;

(ii) Assessment, on a regular basis, of the economic and social performance of the least developed countries, in the context both of the international environment and domestic factors and the linkages between them;

(iii) Monitoring the implementation of the commitments made and measures contained in the Programme of Action;

(iv) Reviews of the response of the development partners to the special needs and circumstances of the least developed countries; and

(v) Monitoring in particular the involvement of women in the implementation of the Programme of Action.

Requirements in connection with the restructuring of the economies of land-locked and island developing countries in a manner consistent with their geographical situation and the special problems faced by them would also receive increased attention. Particular focus would be placed on critical issues such as the strengthening of arrangements for the movement of transit traffic and for inter-island communications, and the mobilization of financial and technical assistance to them for the improvement of transit traffic and transport infrastructures.

The special programme of assistance to the Palestinian people, in addition to continuing its review of economic developments in the occupied Palestinian territory, will give emphasis to formulation of policy recommendations with the objective of the mobilization of the territory's potential for sustained growth and related technical co-operation requirements.

1. Least developed countries

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s:

(i) Review and analysis of policies and plans of LDCs formulated and implemented within the framework of the Programme of Action;
(ii) Assessment on a regular basis of the economic and social performance of LDCs;
(iii) Review and analysis of donors' policies towards LDCs;
(iv) Monitoring the implementation of the commitments and measures contained in the Programme of Action;
(v) Support to the review and appraisal process at the regional level;
(vi) Participation in the round tables and consultative group process in order to establish links between the follow-up at the national and global levels;
(vii) Support to an expanded programme of technical co-operation.

ACTIVITIES

2. PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

(a) Parliamentary documentation

(i) Report on the least developed countries to the Trade and Development Board and the General Assembly containing reviews of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action and proposals for ensuring its effective implemention, 1992, 1993;
(ii) Report to the Trade and Development Board, regional commissions, country review meetings, Governments of least developed and donor countries, as appropriate, covering inter alia economic and social performance of least developed countries, progress in the development and implementation of a macro-economic policy framework, and country policy framework plans and country level co-ordination arrangements, 1992, 1993;
(iii) Report to the Trade and Development Board, Governments of least developed and donor countries and country review meetings, as appropriate, containing reviews of assistance by the development partners in response to the needs and circumstances of least developed countries and evaluation of technical co-operation and modalities as applied to least developed countries, 1992, 1993;
(iv) Reports to the Trade and Development Board, Governments of least developed and donor countries, as appropriate, on progress in the development of policies and measures, and implementation thereof, for the strengthening of human and institutional capacities for effective management of the development process; and for increasing the participation of women, enterprises and NGO's in the development of the least developed countries, 1992;
(v) Report to the Trade and Development Board, Governments of least developed countries and donor countries reviewing progress in the development and application of measures for strengthening the environmental and resource management capacities of the least developed countries, 1993.

(b) Substantive services

(i) The Trade and Development Board, annual, 1992, 1993;
(ii) The Least Developed Countries' annual ministerial consultations (New York), annual, 1992, 1993.

(d) Ad hoc expert groups and related preparatory work

Ad hoc expert group on performance measurement will be convened, 1992.

3. PUBLISHED MATERIAL

(a) Recurrent publications

The Least Developed Countries Report, annual, 1992, 1993.

(c) Technical material

(i) Development and maintenance of socio-economic indicators to measure the performance of LDCs and the support by their development partners during the decade; support to individual LDCs for the collection of information required as a basis for development and maintenance of performance indicators, 1992, 1993;
(ii) Contributions to the work of the Committee on Development Planning regarding the criteria designating the LDCs;
(iii) Establishment of an information base on the role of women, the enterprise sector and NGOs in the implementation of the Programme of Action;
(iv) Substantive contributions to, and participation in, country review meetings, 1992, 1993.

5. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

(a) Advisory services

Advice, and backstopping thereof, to LDC Governments on arrangements for the review of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action for the LDCs for the 1990s, including country review preparations; to individual LDCs in assessing technical co-operation requirements, projects and programmes and formulation, 1992, 1993;

6. CO-ORDINATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON

UNCTAD, in its capacity as the focal point for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action at the global level, will provide support at the country and regional levels and make the necessary links between the national and global levels. UNCTAD will also provide support and services to inter-agency meetings. UNCTAD will make contributions to, and participate in, regional and subregional biennial cluster meetings. Co-ordination of the work on LDC's of all UNCTAD subprogrammes, including technical co-operation. In the implementation of these activities, UNCTAD will co-operate closely with the regional commissions, UNDP and the World Bank.

2. Land-locked and island developing countries, and special programmes

Land-locked and island developing countries

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

(a) Land-locked developing countries

(i) Assist land-locked countries and their transit neighbours in their efforts to establish or intensify co-operative arrangements;
(ii) Promote implementation of bilateral and subregional and international conventions on transit transport;
(iii) Assist regional economic commissions and relevant subregional organizations in their work related to land-locked developing countries;
(iv) Provide substantive inputs to international symposia and workshops on issues and problems of land-locked developing countries;
(v) Mobilize financial and technical assistance from the international community for the improvement of transit infrastructures and services in land-locked countries and their neighbours.

(b) Island developing countries

(i) Promote inter-island shipping, air and telecommunication services, including collective import operations;
(ii) Support efforts designed to promote regional co-operation and integration;
(iii) Assist regional economic commissions and relevant subregional organizations in their work related to island developing countries;
(iv) Provide substantive inputs to international symposia and workshops on issues and problems of island developing countries;
(v) Mobilize financial and technical assistance to island developing countries to enable them inter alia to exploit their marine and submarine resources, including development of their fishing industry.

ACTIVITIES

1. INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

(b) Promotion of legal instruments

(i) In relation to land-locked developing countries, elaboration of bilateral and subregional transit agreements in the areas of railway, rail and port operations or other types of operational agreements as required and assistance in their implementation;
(ii) In relation to island developing countries, elaboration of inter-island shipping, air and telecommunication services agreements as required and assistance in their implementation.

2. PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

(a) Parliamentary documentation

(i) Report on progress in the implementation of specific action related to the particular needs and problems of land-locked developing countries, General Assembly through the Trade and Development Board, 1993;
(ii) Report on progress in the implementation of specific action related to the particular needs and problems of island developing countries, General Assembly through the Trade and Development Board, 1992.

(d) Ad hoc expert groups

An ad hoc group of experts will be convened on environment and development in relation to island developing countries, 1993.

5. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

(a) Advisory services

Assistance in the development of technical co-operation projects and support to the co-ordination of implementation in the field, including:

(i) Simplification and standardization of customs and trade documentation;
(ii) Comparative analysis of transport costs along alternative transit corridors;
(iii) Feasibility studies on the establishment of new transit transport infrastructures;
(iv) Assistance in the implementation of transit traffic policies;
(v) Assistance in the restructuring of production and trade patterns to suit the particular geographic situation of land-locked and island developing countries.

(b) Group training

Activities in this area are undertaken, and supported, within the framework of field projects, and include training of personnel involved in the implementation of transist traffic policies and operations.

Assistance to the Palestinian people

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

Assistance to the Palestinian people through:

(i) Identification and analysis of the impact of Israeli policies and practices on the economy of the occupied Palestinian territory;
(ii) Formulation of recommendations for policy measures aimed at mobilising the potential of the Palestinian economy for sustained development;
(iii) Preparation of proposals for technical cooperation aimed at contributing to the revival of the Palestinian economy.

ACTIVITIES

2. PARLIAMENTARY SERVICES

(a) Parliamentary documentation:

Recent economic developments in the occupied Palestinian territory, Trade and Development Board, 1992, 1993.

(b) Substantive services

Trade and Development Board, annual, 1992, 1993.

3. PUBLISHED MATERIAL

(b) Non-recurrent publications

(i) Prospects for sustained growth and development in the occupied Palestinian territory, 1992;
(ii) Policy and strategy guidelines for the Palestinian economy in the 1990s, 1992;
(iii) Reviving the Palestinian economy - technical cooperation in institution building, resource mobilisation and management, 1993.

(c) Technical material

(i) Data-base extracts on the Palestinian economy, 1992;
(ii) Selected statistical series on the Palestinian economy, 1993.

5. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

(a) Advisory services

Two advisory missions to Palestinian institutions involved in reviving the Palestinian economy in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and in enhancing its capability for sustained growth and development; assistance in preparation of two project proposals aimed at building institutional capabilities for economic management, 1992, 1993.

Programme Support and Management Services

Orientation of the subprogramme for the biennium:

Programme Support and Management Services provide for the whole of UNCTAD services in connection with conference servicing, personnel administration, financial administration and resource planning, use of common services and co-ordination of representation to support the implementation of the work programme.

ACTIVITIES

6. CO-ORDINATION, HARMONIZATION AND LIAISON

(i) Overall policy direction to programme support areas and common services, co-ordination and liaison with the Secretary-General of UNCTAD's Office and other UNCTAD programmes, and inter-departmental and inter-agency co-ordination at the policy-making level;
(ii) Legal services to UNCTAD and related liaison with the Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat;
(iii) Policy direction to technical co-operation activities; co-ordination of extra-budgetary fund-raising; focal point for relations with, and advice to, Governments, UNDP and other technical co-operation agencies on technical co-operation matters;
(iv) Co-ordination and administration of technical co-operation activities within UNCTAD, including project formulation and co-ordination between UNCTAD substantive programmes and UNDP field offices and with other executing agencies in relation to technical co-operation projects;
(v) Co-ordination of UNCTAD representation and related co-ordination with the Representation Unit, EOSG, NY; liaison and co-ordination with originating departments, organizations and agencies.

7. CONFERENCE SERVICES

(a) Editorial services

Editing of all UNCTAD reports, official records and publications (about 750 documents); assistance to rapporteurs in preparation and finalization of official reports.

(b) Parliamentary services

Provides Secretaries, including Secretary of the Conference, to all UNCTAD meetings (estimated 35 meeting units annually); planning and preparation of UNCTAD's calender of meetings; receiving and recording credentials of delegates (some 9000) and technical support to credentials committees; preparation and distribution of notes verbales and other official UNCTAD correspondence; liaison and co-ordination with the Conference Service of the United Nations Office at Geneva.

(d) Publishing services

Arrangements for processing and distribution of some 750 documents, including submission to the United Nations Office at Geneva, monitoring documents preparation (UNCTAD) and processing (United Nations Office at Geneva); maintenance of an operating archive of UNCTAD documents; submission of publications programmes to publications panels and follow-up thereto.

(e) Library services

Economic reference services to UNCTAD, including maintenance and circulation of reference material and periodicals (some 500 pieces annually), and inventory of a master set of UNCTAD documents; periodic preparation of bibliographies on selected substantive subjects; library services to UNCTAD including inter-library loan arrangements; liaison with United Nations libraries.

8. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

(b) Human resources management

(i) Recruitment and administration of regular and short-term Professional and General Service Staff; screening of applications and candidates (some 2000 annually);

(ii) Recruitment and administration of Geneva and field-based consultants and experts financed from both the regular budget and extra-budgetary sources (technical co-operation projects), (approximately 600);

(c) Programme planning, budget and finance

(i) Administrative and financial management of activities financed from the regular budget, support costs reimbursement and technical co-operation projects (about 180 projects) including certification and monitoring of expenditures; and of meetings and special conferences held away from Geneva and financed through host country arrangements;

(ii) Preparation of biennial programme budget proposals and related performance reports; preparation of monitoring reports on all objects of expenditure and reconciliation of monthly allotment reports to budget; preparation of statements of administative and financial implications and programme budget implications as necessary; preparation of budgets and financial reports on technical co-operation project implementation, project delivery and other reports required by UNDP and reports and statements relating to bilateral contributions to technical co-operation trust funds.

(d) General Services

(i) Arrangements for contracting and procurement financed from both the regular budget and technical co-operation projects; preparation of submissions to the Geneva Contracts Committee; arrangements for delivery and installation of equipment at Geneva and transportation to field locations; internal logistical arrangements, including office moves, arrangements for office maintenance (United Nations Office at Geneva), and provision of supplies etc.;

(ii) Maintenance of a central registry, and telecommunications unit.